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Diary of Important
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Events

1910 - 1946

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Diary of Important Events

From 1910 – 1947 (Pages 1–13)

Summaries, like reports from Congress Committee offices etc.

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DIARY OF IMPORTANT EVENTS.

1 9 1 0.

April, 17. The "Punjab Gazette" notified that under Sec. 12 of the Press Act all copies of a photograph entitled "Arya Mata" containing portraits of Shaymji Krishnavarma and others arranged round an allegorical representation designed and published by Desai, Photographer, are declared forfeited to H.M.

April, 27. The "Calcutta Gazette" announces the proscription of "India" and "Suryodhaya" published from Pondicherry.

Sept., 26. The Maharajah of Travancore issued a proclamation today directing the suppression of the vernacular paper, The "Swadeshabhimani"; also the arrest and removal from the Travancore State of its proprietor and editor, Ramakrishna Pillai and the confiscation of the Press.

1 9 1 1.

Sept., 11. The Ashe murder case was taken up today in the Madras High Court by a Special tribunal.

Sept., 13. A general meeting of the Madras Provincial Congress Committee was held today at the Madras Mahajana Sabha to protest against the action of the Mysore Govt. in preventing Mr. V.S. Srinivasa Sastriar from delivering public lectures in Bangalore. The Hon'ble Mr. T.V. Seshagiri Iyer, President of the Committee, was in the chair.

1 9 1 6.

Feb., 13. Mr. M.K. Gandhi arrived in Madras this afternoon.

Feb., 22. Mr. Hardinge, the District and Sessions Judge, was stabbed to death by a Mahomedan at Trichinopoly.

April, 18. Mr. G.Subramania Iyer of Madras died.

May, 28. The Madras Govt. demanded security from Mrs. Besant as the printer of "New India".

June, 12. Public meeting in Madras to protest against demand of security from "New India". Sir S.Subramania Iyer presided.

August, 28. Forfeiture of security of Rs.2,000 of "New India".

Oct., 18. Dismissal of Mrs. Besant's appeal re: security by a Full Bench of the Madras High Court.

1 9 1 7.

Dec. 6. The Madras Govt. issued a revised order on students and politics.

Nov. 4. Madras Protest meeting at the Anglo-Indian agitation.

Oct. 1. Meeting of Indian Christians in Madras advocating the Congress-League Scheme.

Sept. 17. Release of Mrs. Besant, Wadia and Arundale whose internment was ordered on June 16.

Sept. 23. Presentations of addresses to Mrs. Besant by Madras Political bodies.

July, 16. Swadeshi Day in Madras. Meetings all over the city and Presidency were held in which Swadeshi vows were taken.

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1 9 1 8.

April, 7.	Holding of the National Education Week.
May, 9.	Twenty-fourth Madras Provincial Conference at Conjeevaram under the presidency of Mrs. Sarojini Naidu.
June, 5.	Nadar Conference in Tinnevelly.
June, 14.	Vehement criticism of Sir Subramania Iyer's open letter to President Wilson and Sir S.S's press statement defending his position next day.
July, 8.	The Montagu-Chelmsford Report on Constitutional Reforms published.
July, 19.	Publication of the Rowlatt Committee Report.

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1 9 1 9.

Jan., 30.	Public meeting in Madras to protest against the "Black Bills".
Feb., 8.	Outburst of Moplah fanaticism reported in Malabar.
Feb., 14.	Public meeting in Madras to protest against the I.C.S. Memorandum and the Viceroy's speech.
Feb., 27.	The Madras Govt. forfeits the security of the "Desabakthan" a Tamil daily of Madras.
March, 17.	Public meeting at Madras to protest against the Rowlatt Bills. The next day Madras Moderates issued a Manifesto against Passive Resistance.
March, 18.	Rowlatt Bills passed into law. B.N. Sarma resigns membership of the Viceroy's council.
June, 4.	Protest meeting in Madras against the action taken under the Press Act on the "Hindu" and other Madras papers.
Sept., 28.	The (A) bazaar organised by the Punjab Relief Fund Committee was opened at the Gokhale Hall, Madras, by Dewan Bahadur L.A. Govindaraghava Iyer.
Nov. 8.	Nationalists' Conference in Madras.
Nov. 25.	The Madras Liberal League passes resolution welcoming the revised Reform Bill.

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1 9 2 0.

June, 21.	The Madras Provincial Conference met at Tinnevelly under the presidentship of Mr. S.Srinivasa Iyengar.
Aug. 12.	Mr. Gandhi arrives in Madras and addresses a meeting at the beach.
Sept., 8.	To-day at the Special session of the Calcutta Congress presided over by Lala Lajput Rai, Mr. Gandhi's resolution on Non-co-operation was passed by a majority The All India MuslimLeague also passed the N.C.O. resolution.
Oct. 31.	The first All-India Trade Union Congress met at Bombay with Lala Lajput Rai in the chair.

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1 9 2 1.

Feb. 17.	Messrs. Yakub Hassan and three others were arrested at Calicut and sentenced to 6 months.
July, 31.	Bonfire of foreign cloth by Mr. Gandhi at Bombay.
Aug., 20.	A serious riot occurred at Tirurangadi in Malabar. Next day a military proclamation was issued in this connection.
Sept., 1.	Ali Moosaliar, a Moplah leader, has been arrested.
Sept., 9.	The proprietors and the manager of the "Desabaktan" of Madras were arrested for alleged sedition.
Sept., 15.	Mr. Gandhi arrives in Madras.
Sept., 19.	Mr. V.V.S. Iyer of "Desabaktan" was sentenced to 9 months S.I. for sedition.
Sept., 30.	Four N.C.O. preachers were arrested at Cuddapah for sedition.
Oct., 21.	Mr. Yakub Hasan arrested for sedition.
Nov., 2.	Ali Musaliar and 37 others accused in the Moplah trial were sentenced to death.
Nov., 7.	Mr. Yakub Hassan sentenced to 2 years S.I.
Nov., 15.	Dr. P.Varadarajulu Naidu, Editor, "Tamil Nadu" sentenced to 9 months R.I. for sedition.
Dec., 14.	Mr. C.Rajagopalachariar, Dr. Rajan and E.V.R. Naicker were served with summons under Section 188.

1 9 2 2.

Feb., 19.	Ali Musaliar, the Moplah rebel leader, and two others were executed at Coimbatore.
March, 18.	Mr. Gandhi and Shankerlal Banker sentenced to 6 years S.I. and 1 year S.I. respectively.
April, 22.	A large number of men of the 1st and 2nd Hyderabad Service Lancers struck work. The next day those who refused to return to work were dismissed.
Aug., 1.	186 volunteers were arrested at Guntur in connection with the visit of the Civil Disobedience Enquiry Committee.
Nov., 18.	Formation of the Panagal Ministry.

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1 9 2 5.

March, 7. Gandhi arrived in Madras en route to Vaikom.

1926.

Dec., 3. Dr. P.Subbaroyan appointed chief Minister of Madras. Next day announces Cabinet. Other members are A.Ranganatha Mudaliar and R.N. Arogiaswami Mudaliar.

1 9 2 8.

Feb., 22. The Simon Commission leaves Calcutta for Madras.

March, 10. Mr. T.R.V. Sastri appointed Law Member of the Madras Govt.

March, 13. Mr. Sastri resigns his post.

July, 20. Strike in the S.I. Ry. commences.

Oct., 6. Madras All-Parties Conference under Dr. Besant's presidentship.

1 9 2 9.

April, 8. Bomb outrage in the Indian Legislative Assembly.

Aug., 10. M. Annapurniah sentenced to 1 year R.I.

Sept., 1. Tamil Nadu Provincial Conference at Vedaranyam under presidentship of V.J. Patel.

Sept., 13. Death of Jatin Das during hunger strike.

1 9 3 0.

Jan., 26. Independence Day observed throughout the country.

Feb., 16. The A.I.C.C. vests all powers in Gandhiji.

Feb., 19. The A.I.C.C. adopts the Civil Disobedience programme.

March, 3. Gandhiji's ultimatum to the Viceroy through Mr. Reginald Reynolds.

March, 12. Gandhiji's C.D. March begins.

April, 6. Gandhiji and 84 volunteers break the Salt Law at Dandi.

April, 15. Messrs. Prakasam and Nageswara Rao are fined Rs.500 each and their cars are attacked on refusal to pay the same.

May, ~~March~~, 4. Gandhiji arrested and detained at Yerrawada.

May, 20. Nationalist newspapers throughout India observe hartal.

1 9 3 5.

May, 13. S.Satyamurthi, elected President of the T.N.C.C. in place of Mr. Rajaji.

Dec., 28. Congress Golden Jubilee celebrations all over the country.

1 9 3 6.

Aug., 11. 1936. Rajaji resigns from the Congress.

1 9 3 7.

May, 10. The Justice Party meeting at Madras condemns the Interim Ministry.

1 9 3 7.

July, 15. Rajaji forms the first Congress Ministry.

1 9 3 9.

July, 10. The Sri Minakshi Temple, Madhurai, thrown open to Harijans.

July, 16. Sri Brihadeswara Temple, Tanjore, thrown open to Harijans.

Oct., 28. Madras Congress Ministry resigns.

1940 ~~1 9 3 0.~~

July, 21. Rajaji urges ~~the~~ National Government at the Centre.

Oct., 13. Congress Working Committee approves Gandhiji's plan of individual civil disobedience at Wardha.

1 9 4 2.

April, 23. Congress Legislature Party in Madras concedes Pakistan demand.

April, 25. Congress President condemns Madras resolution.

May, 3. A.I.C.C. rejects Madras resolution.

May, 6. Rajaji pleads for coalition Govt. and united resistance to Japs.

July, 9. Rajaji resigns from the Congress.

July, 14. Congress Working Committee passes the "Quit India" resolution.

Aug., 8. A.I.C.C. endorses Working Committee resolution.

Aug., 10. Disturbances all over the country.

Dec., 30. President, Newspaper Editors' Conference appeals to all Newspapers in India to observe hartal on Jan. 6.

1 9 4 3.

Jan., 3. Madras Govt. withholds press facilities to papers which did not publish the New Year Honours list.

March, 28. Death of S. Satyamurthi in the Madras General Hospital.

Aug., 24. In the "News Chronicle" Rajaji suggests that Cripps should visit India once again.

Sept., 28. Gandhi Jayanthi celebrations banned in Madras.

1 9 4 4.

May, 6. Gandhiji released unconditionally.

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1 9 4 5.

June, 3.	Bharathi Memorial foundation stone laid by Rajaji at Ettaiyapuram.
Sept., 10.	Rajaji back into the Congress fold.
Oct., 13.	Ban on Bharathi's songs lifted.
Oct., 26.	Congress election manifesto published.

1 9 4 6.

Feb., 3.	Gandhiji worships at the Sri Meenakshi Temple, Madhurai.
April, 12.	Congress President advises retention of the old Madras Ministerial team after elections.
April, 18.	Madras Congress Legislators reject High Command's advice to elect C.R. as leader.
April, 22.	T.Prakasam elected leader of the Madras Congress Legislature party defeating C.N. Muthuranga Mudaliar by 82-69.
April, 30. [illegible]	Prakasam Ministry assumes charge.
May, 16.	Cabinet Mission announce its plans for interim Govt. at Centre.
Sept., 26.	Interim Govt. at Centre - Nehru vice-President.
Oct., 1.	Prohibition in 8 Madras districts inaugurated.
Oct., 13.	League decides to join Interim Govt.

1 9 4 7.

Jan., 6.	A.I.C.C. adopts Nehru's resolution accepting the British Govt.'s Dec. 6 statement.
Jan., 23.	Madras Public Safety Ordinance promulgated. Rounding up of communists.
Jan., 1.	Tiruvarur temple thrown open to Harijans.
Feb., 1.	Temple entry at Srirangam.
Feb., 11.	Civil Rights for Harijans Bill passed in Madras Council.
Feb., 28.	Madras Ministerisl crisis - Congress legislators elect a new leader.
March, 21.	O.P.R. Reddiar forms new Ministry in Madras.
April, 22.	Madras Assembly votes for linguistic provinces.
June, 2.	Indian Leaders' Conference, called by the Viceroy, meets in Delhi.
June, 3.	Party leaders accept British Govt.'s plan - Viceroy and leaders broadcast approval.
July, 10.	Jinnah and Mountbatten announced as G.G.s of Pakistan and India.

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1 9 4 7.

July, 15. Commons passes 3rd reading of the Indian Independence Bill.

Aug., 1. 22 States express readiness to join the Indian Union.

Aug., 15. Independence Day celebrations throughout the country.

P. 8-10. Missing.

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FROM THE "HINDU"

FRIDAY OCTOBER, 12, 1883.

"Can the following be true? We quote from the "Liberal". A friend who has just returned from Assam tells us that the Planters entertain such a high notion of their position that no Natives are allowed to pass before them with umbrellas on their heads or on horseback. As soon as a native is seen on the road he is made either to close his umbrella or alight from the horse.

FROM THE 'HINDU'

Dated October 17, 1883.

The editorial on the petition of the Sarvajanopekara Sabha of Srivilliputhur, Tinnevelly District to the Governor praying for the removal of the restrictions caused by the Madras Forest Act.

"Hindu" of October, 19, 1883 gives the following:--

"Mr.Thomas Hughes the author of Tom Brown's Schooldays" says on the Ilbert Bill - It will never do to allow the Queen's and England's plighted word to break down on this, the first occasion when the test has come. Here are just two natives, who in equal competition with Englishmen have won the posts of district judges and we are going to forbid their trying any white scamp, though in every case the White Scamp have the right of appeal I never thought to live to fight the old battle of twenty years ago over again."

"HINDU" NOVEMBER 2, 1883.

Editorial comment on Racial ~~desere,onatopm:~~ discrimination

"We regret to hear more and more unsatisfactory accounts of the attitude of the Lt.Governor of Bengal towards natives. While he was on tour the last time he excluded Mr.B.De, a native civil servant, and the Joint Magistrate of Hughly from an invitation at which the gentry of the place were present. We really hope that the ommission was unintentional, for which the private secretary, or the officer responsible for the mistake will have to be duly censured."

HINDU -- NOVEMBER, 9, 1883.

EDITORIAL.

"There is much curiosity abroad to know how the proceeds of the special police tax levied from the inhabitants of the Salem District have been appropriated. So far as we are aware no account of them has yet been published by Government. Nor can they be treated as secret service fund or Other funds which, for one reason or other, are treated as not susceptable of public scrutiny. The amount that was collected on the whole, the number of ~~herson~~ person that contributed it and at what rate or on what principle the collection was made, all these the public naturally expect to know. In the absence of light, room is created for vague rumours and vague suspicions as to the natives and doings of the authorities. It will do good to government and its officers to publish a report of the whole".

HINDU - WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER,28, 1883.

EDITORIAL: (Re: Mr.W.S.Blunt's visit to Madras)

"Mr.Wilfrid Blunt stayed in Madras for a week and left

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it last Friday without setting the coovum on fire. The "Pioneers" evil vacticinations have proved imaginary. He had long conversations with some leading Hindu and Mahomedan gentleman and gathered a good deel of information about the condition of the country and about the opinions of the native public on various subjects. He evinced particular interest in the condition of the ryots and in the operation of the salt tax. He has indeed made enemies by his open and bold adherence to what he believes to be right and an equally unsparing denunciation of what he is convinced to be injustice".

"HINDU", DECEMBER 5, 1883.

EDITORIAL:

The collector of Tanjore is said to have said while presiding over a local public meeting that political and literary discussions were absolutely useless and that if educated natives wished to be of any use to their countrymen, they should widely disseminate a knowledge of the laws of health and hygiene...... We imagine that his audience could not have thanked him for the advice be stooped to give. We have never been able to understand that intense dread that some of the European officers betray at the thought of political knowledge growing in the country.

HINDU - JANUARY 11, 1884.

The following facts are given in the 'Hindu' leader of the above date about an English official's reported assault on a native.

2Mr. J.W.Wronghton, an Assistant superindendent of the Revenue Survey, 3rd Party, had come on circuit to Kudimangalam village on 12th December 1883 and stopped there until the 17th. The complainant, the village headman, being required on the 12th and 13the to show him the boundary of the village, he together with Kavalgars and others rendered all the necessary assistance for the purpose. In pursuance of Mr.Wronghton's order and that of the peons on his behalf the compalainant supplied him with things at an expense of Rs.1 and Annas 12, which Mr.Wronghton did not pay in spite of repeated demands.

At about 7 A.M. on the 15th when complainant was collecting kists and granting receipts, Mr.Wronghton came there with a stick in his hand furiously striding towards the complainant and, with no ceremony whatever violantly laying hold of his arms dragged him forth from his pial and kept pushing him by the neck all along the way from his house to Mr.Wrongtton's tent and belaboured him on the way with the cudgel in his hand.

+"On getting to the tent he gave the village headman a fixed stand just outside the tent in the open sun, and drew a ring around bidding him not to stir even an inch on pain of death. Thus charmed in the centre of the magic ring, he was spitted at, belaboured with the stick and kicked with boots. At every fresh administration of the stick, hand or leg as the case may be, Mr.Wronghton cried loudly: Have you yet to learn to make good supply. The native has applied for a departmental enquiry."

HINDU - APRIL, 28, 1884.

An editorial:

~~Wit~~ "Is it creditable that in the latter half of the nineteenth century, under a civilised government a government consisting of Englishmen and headed by a person professing allegiance to the Liberal Party, such contrivances of corrupt Government as spies, tale-bearers, intrigners and persons of that class, should plourish? Yet there is a very general fear in Madras, both among Europeans and Natives, that private conversations are reported to government, that ~~that~~ the movements of certain suspected persons are closely watched, and that against several officials black marks have been made for their alleged opposition to Government and conspiracy with a knot of men who are suspected ~~to~~ have made the recent disclosured. Of course the spies and tale-bearers have ~~not~~ beenable to affect nothing in the direction of saving government from public criticisms, although many a honest man must have been misrepresented and thereby made the object of government's unmerited displeasure. In a weak government such practices find a fertile soil and flourish lusuriantly; but it pains us much to learn that instead of the class of the vagabonds who should supply men to carry them out, these latter belong to a class of persons from whom we should expect less dishonourable things. It is impossible that public opinion can be controlled now a days by a resort to such absolute and despicable contrivances. But the fact of their adoption indicates the depth to which the imbecility of the Madras Government has sunk".

<u>Hindu - May 12, 1884.</u>

<u>EDITORIAL:</u>

"Mr. Pennington, the collector of Tanjore is represented

to have spoken somewhat disparingly of native morality on the occasion of his distribution of prizes to the pupils of the Kumbhakhonam college. we do not attach much importance to these innocent ebullitions. The average civilian inherits from his predecessor not simply his office but also his pregudias and predelictions which are duly communicated to him over the dinner table and which he breasures up to embellish his reports and speeches. But it is unfortunate but all this tall talk proceeds from persons who are not generally models of perfection. In spite of the repeated protests of the Press the supply system still continues in full force. We are not aware of any extra case bestowed upon this branch of his duty by Mr. Pennington during the late Jamabhandi of his District. Carriages from the Kapistalam estate were not ordered back with a refrimand on the officioms land-lord or on the officer or officers for whose favour he put himself to expense and inconvenience grand pandals for the reception of the Jamabhandy officer were not wanting and probably were duly admired by persons where admiration carries its own weight with poor ryots and rich ryots too. Mr.Pennington is, no doubt, an officer of the best of intentions painstaking and thoroughly conscientious. But he is not always successful in reading aright the character of natives. - even of those who have daily transactions with him. His opinion , therefore, on matters of this kind should be taken not so much to be indicative of antipathy or dislike to natives, as illustrating the influence of the curious process of self-adulation which is so characteristic of the Indian Celestials and against which even exceptional men do not seem to be secure. There are a few who manage to overcome this influence, but those few form only the exceptions that prove the rule".

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HINDU - MAY 14, 1884.

EDITORIAL comments of the "A.B.Patrika" on the Appeal filed by Mr.C.Vijayaraghavachariar of Salem as regards his dismissal from Municipal Commissionership quoted by the Hindu" :

"One charge against him (Mr.Acharya) was that he wrote in the newspapers. Another was that he opposed the Chairman of the Municipality. Another was that he was a member of a Sabha etc etc............ The High court has done Substantial Justice, though one can not help arriving at the conclusion that the Judges did all they could to protect the Government. They did their best; but the Government had no defence whatever and stood self-convicted. The Judges had, therefore, no other way left to them but to find against the Government. The plaintiff, when he asked the court to summon the governor as witness, the party who was mainly responsible for his dismissal, the court refused his prayer. And when the court at last found that Mr Acharry was wrongfully infured by the Government what did the judges do? They only granted him nominal damages. Was Rs.100 adequate compensation for the grave injury done to Mr.Charry? The Government had stabbed in the dark and though it was known who was the party that did the mischief yet it was almost beyond the power of any native of India to bring it to justice. The Government removed him from a post of honour arbitrarily casting a deep stain enfron his character. When he demanded the cause of his removal the Government laughed at him. The Government took no notice when the high court exonerated him from all blame. So when the High Court gave only one hundred rupees as damages, the judges betrayed a culpable bias which we must deplore."

"HINDU" - MAY - 23 - 1884.

Editorial on the Question ~~and~~ of Indian Ecclesiastial Payments:--

"We are not afraid of another Defence Association for protecting the species of robbery that is now committeed by the Government of India in the name of Christian religion, because in the camp of the robbers themselves there is disagreement. The present Ecclesiastial Disertablishments will work their own destincion. The Dissenters will not allow a particular sect of Christian religionists to misappropriate for their own special behoof, by an outrageous abuse of power, the funds contributed by Hindus and Mussalmans. Can it be in the true spirit of Christianity that nearly 25 laksh of rupees are forced out of a people nearly half whom, according to official account, go through life on insufficient food and die in millions once in ten years from sheer starvation, for the purpose of providing spiritical ministration to men who convert their existance in this country into such a large source of income that they do not know what costly luxury they may spare themselves? It is all humbug, pure and simple, to say that the men, leading the sort of life that they are so notoriously known to do on the hills and other secluded sanitoriums, are so solicitasions of their spiritual life that these chaplain princes are necessary to soothe the cravings of their panting souls..... We say, plunder is the only name that can be properly given to the Indian Ecclesiastical payments, and those that profess the Protestant Faith and that represent its angust Defender must be the last to commit it."

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"HINDU" - JUNE 6, 1884.

Editorial: Re: cofruption enquiry.

"We learn from our Tinnevelly correspondent that the Head clerk who was suspected of having been privy to many transactions, has made a statement before Mr.Garstin implicating several of the Zamindars of the District. It is said he was all along the night-hand man of Mr.Atkinson; of course he admits his complicity in many of the transactions, and we hear, on trustworthy anthority, that strenuous efforts are made in some influential quarters to bring up all the possible evidence. Two respectable native gentlemen of the place are supposed to be busy in advising the Zamindars to deny in toto everything concerning the matter. It is, however, gratifying to learn that the Muttam people at Nanguneri have at least, told the truth, though it is generally believed that the supposed loan was nothing but absolute-gift. It is unfortunate that the loan should have been asked and given at a time when the corpse of the late Jeer was not yet buried. We do not mean at this stage to impute or infer anything from an eccurrence which might after all be a pure accident. We are also told that the butler of Mr. Atkinson has absconded. Upwards of hundred summon have been issued by the special magistrate and several warrants are in the hands of police for the arrest of some concerned in the alleged nefarious transaction that are now being brought to light".

"HINDU" - JUNE 18, 1884.

Editorial: Re: Hill Exodus.

"It is with feelings of pride and satisfaction we look

upon the proceedings of a meeting of the petty merchants and tradesmen of Madras held in the Mantapam of Cundaswamy Koil Black Town, with regard to the annual removal of the seat of Government. from the Presidency Town to Ootacamund and the Permanent removal of public offices from the Presidency town. Anyone perusing the Tamil addresses delivered on the occasion will see that a change is coming over the people of this Presidency. What can be a better indication of the progress of our countrymen in political knowledge than this? Is it not very strange to see that 500 of our petty merchants and shopkeepers meeting together to discuss an important public question in their own vernacular language? The Tamil speeches delivered were very short and well suited to the occasion. All these make us believe that our Presidency should no more be called the "benighted." We consider all such activity as the outward manifestation of the progress of political education and the feeling of union that are fast pervading among our non-English knowing countrymen. We have no doubt that this germ of national growth will grow into a strong healthy tree and bear good fruits in our country".

"HINDU" - July 4, 1884.

A monster meeting was held at Madras on July 3, 1884, to progest against the government. Exodus to Ooty and the permanent removal of the Military Headquarter to Ooty. Delegates from mofussil centres too were present. Many Anglo-Indians attended and took part - Rajah Sri T.Madhava Rao presided Telegram from all over the Presidency had been received supporting the stand of the citizens.

Editorial (Re: that agitation)

'The Memorable Day'-

"Thursday the third of July, 1884 is a Red-letter day in the annals of Southern India. That may shrang up, as if under the wand of a magician, constitutional manliness in its manhood.......Gooded by a tremendous wrong meditated and partly perpetrated against the people of ~~their~~ this Presidency the benighted Presidency stood knighted before the world...... Her millions have stood forth as one man gigantic in their strength, but at the same time imparturbable in their allegiance to constituted anthority.........Display of violence there was none.Through her spokesman She waged a moral war against unfeeling despotism and her triumph was simply decisive.......May our Anglo-Indian brethren ever fight by our side in the cause of Justice and against perpetrators of national wrong."

"HINDU" - SEPTEMBER 19, 1884.

Editorial on Nepotism:

"The distribution of patronage in the Salt, postal and Opium Departments appears to be based upon no principle but strict nepotism. These departments from their exclusive nature would seem to be come converted into a close preserve for the ~~sundry~~ sons, nephews and cousins of big magnatts occupying high positions in the state. It is only very recently that the secretary of state disallowed the appointments of Messrs. Tarrant and Thornhill as Assistant Directors of Revenue Settlement. The moment they were thrown out of these posts which they held for nearly a month, they were shoved into the salt Department, as if it is intended as a reserve to meet such contingencies..... Yet we see orators stumping the country and talking rantic nonsense about the imagined wrongs of domiciled Europeans!".

From the files of the "HINDU"

Extracts from an Editorial dated February 18th 1885.

(Furnished by Sri S. Rangarajan)

"It gives us much pain to see that Sir Jamsetji Jeejeebhai heading a movement to do public honour to the retiring Governor of Bombay. We hope that he and his friends will seriously think of the harm that indiscriminate and cheap honours must necessarily produce. Public policy and expediency suggest that they should be bestowed sparingly and on men that have deserved them by deeds of extraordinary benevolence. It is a sufficient slur on the Judgment and public spirit of Bombay that her citizens permitted Sir Richard Temple's name to be immortalized in a statue. And although we have no doubt in placing Sir James Fergusson in a higher category, we cannot yet think of any act or feature of his administration which may be said to have entitled him to public gratitude."

An editorial dated July 15-1-1885.

"The way in which the Government treats the natives with regard to the question of their admission to the higher grades of the public service in this country is undignified on its part and derogatory to ourselves. Take any department you please, you will at once see that Jobbery and nepotism are rampant there. The people of India are for ever treated like children. The Government is for ever making promises to us without any intention of fulfilling them. But in practice we find that these promises are made only with the object of pleasing the natives of this country and that there is no intention of fulfilling them for years to come. Will not this system of making promises without any intention of fulfilling them do more harm than good? Where is the wisdom of raising the expectations of the nation and then disappointing them? It is high time for our rulers to throw open the gates of all departments to the children of the soil. Competency and not any race qualification should form the passport for admission into any department of Her Majesty's Government in India. The vicious principle of nomination or appointment by patronage to the Indian Civil Service must be knocked on the head. Competitive Civil Service examinations in India should be on a par with those in England, but made lawful to be held in India."

701/RI/84

9674/RH/90

94/16
RH

1/5/85

639/RI/2001

2940
R.H

15/5/89

20/7/85

23/11/89

1608
RH/04

94
RH/05

6328/90

10256/RH/93

727/RI/86

8329

1580
RH/04